



## FAQ

# Medications for Opioid Use Disorder (MOUD): Colorado Pharmacist Authority

### What is the MOUD Statewide Protocol?

Colorado pharmacists now have the authority to prescribe and dispense medications for opioid use disorder (MOUD) under a collaborative statewide protocol. This allows pharmacists to play a critical role in expanding access to life-saving treatment for patients with opioid use disorder.

### Where does this authority come from?

The MOUD statewide protocol was established through [HB 24-1045](#). You can learn more about Colorado's pharmacy scope of practice laws and collaborative practice authority on our [Advanced/Expanded Scope of Practice page](#) and our [Statewide Protocols page](#).

### Where can I find the MOUD protocol and rules?

The official MOUD statewide protocol (Rule 17 Appendix G) and all related rules are maintained by the Colorado State Board of Pharmacy at:

- **Official Protocol Site:** <https://dpo.colorado.gov/Pharmacy/Protocols>

The Colorado Pharmacists Society also provides additional resources, training information, and implementation guidance on our [Statewide Protocols page](#).

### What training do I need?

You'll need to complete an 8-hour training program that meets DEA MATE Act requirements. CPS recommends the "*Caring for Patients with Opioid Use Disorder: Optimizing Interprofessional Care*" training program (\$250), which provides joint accreditation for multiple professions including pharmacists. You can find more information about this and other training resources on our [MOUD Statewide Protocol page](#).

### How do I get the required pharmacist license to provide MOUD services?

Colorado requires a specific **Pharmacist Controlled Substances License** that you apply for through the Division of Professions and Occupations (DPO) online system:

1. Make sure your PHA (pharmacist) license is current and up to date
2. Go to the [DPO Online Services system](#)
3. Log in or create an account
4. Select "Apply for a New License", then select "Pharmacy Applications", then find "Pharmacist MOUD (PHACS)" – click "Start"
5. Complete the application
6. Pay the associated fee

The Pharmacist MOUD license is separate from your regular pharmacist license and must be renewed according to the state's renewal schedule. You must hold a pharmacist license (PHA) in Colorado to apply for the Pharmacist MOUD license.



## What about DEA registration?

Obtaining DEA registration as a pharmacist MOUD prescriber is mandatory and requires completing steps in a specific order:

1. First, hold an active Colorado pharmacist license (PHA).
2. Then, obtain your Pharmacist MOUD Controlled Substances authority (PHACS) through your DORA online account at [apps2.colorado.gov/DORA/licensing/Default.aspx](https://apps2.colorado.gov/DORA/licensing/Default.aspx).
3. Once you have an active PHACS authority, you can apply for DEA registration at [deadiversion.usdoj.gov/drugreg/registration.html](https://deadiversion.usdoj.gov/drugreg/registration.html). Select Application, then "Mid-Level Practitioner (NP, PA, OD, etc.)" under the Form 224 heading, then select "MLP - Registered Pharmacist (\$888/3 YRS)" in the "Select One Business Activity" drop-down to start your application.

## What else should I know?

Here are some additional considerations as you get started with MOUD services:

- **Billing and Reimbursement:** Check out our [Provider Status and Payment for Services page](#) for information about billing for pharmacist services.
- **Additional Resources:** The ASAM National Practice Guideline and SAMHSA resources are valuable clinical references. Links to these and other resources are available on our [MOUD Statewide Protocol page](#).
- **Liability Insurance:** Make sure your professional liability insurance covers MOUD prescribing services. Follow the appropriate liability requirements as stated in [Board Rule 17.00.30](#). CPS recommends [Pharmacists Mutual](#).
- **Documentation and Records:** Follow all state rules regarding documentation, record-keeping, and patient care processes. Follow the MOUD protocol precisely.

## Where can I get help?

- **State Board:** Contact the Colorado State Board of Pharmacy at 303-894-7800 or [dora\\_dpo\\_licensing@state.co.us](mailto:dora_dpo_licensing@state.co.us)
- **DEA Questions:** Call the DEA Registration Service Center at 1-800-882-9539
- **CPS Support:** Email us at [admin@copharm.org](mailto:admin@copharm.org) with questions about MOUD implementation or scope of practice

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***CPS is keeping track of pharmacies and organizations providing MOUD services in Colorado -- if you're offering these services, please email us at [admin@copharm.org](mailto:admin@copharm.org) so we can add you to our list.***

***We're excited to support Colorado pharmacists as you expand access to this critical service. Thank you for your commitment to addressing the opioid crisis and serving our communities.***

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This document is provided for informational purposes only. Pharmacists and other healthcare professionals must adhere to all applicable federal and state laws, professional guidelines, and the prevailing standard of care.